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Declassification Review by NGA/DoD

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BRIDGES AND BY-PASSES, ROUTE LA NORTH VIETNAM

# 1. SIGNIFICANCE:

THIS BRIEFING BOARD DEPICTS AUXILIARY BRIDGES AND ROADS BEING
UTILIZED BY THE NORTH VIETNAMESE TO BY-PASS BOTH DAMAGED AND SERVICEABLE BRIDGES, IN AN EFFORT TO MAINTAIN ROUTE LA AS A MAJOR SUPPLY
ARTERY AND LINE OF COMMUNICATION.

### 2. REMARKS:

ROUTE LA, THE MOST IMPORTANT NORTH - SOUTH ROUTE IN NORTH
VIETNAM, EXTENDS FROM THE CHINA BORDER TO THE SOUTH VIETNAM BORDER
VIA HANOI, VINH, AND HA TINH, AND PROVIDES THE ONLY DIRECT BORDER
CONNECTION WITH SOUTH VIETNAM. THE 450-MILE ROUTE GENERALLY IS IN
FAIR TO GOOD CONDITION, AND TRAVERSES HILLY TO FLAT TERRAIN.
EXTENSIVE FLOODING OCCURS DURING THE RAINY SEASON OVER MOST OF THE
ROUTE. OFF-ROAD DISPERSAL IS GENERALLY DIFFICULT. THERE ARE ABOUT
TWO HUNDRED BRIDGES: MOST ARE NARROW, LOW-CAPACITY STRUCTURES.

#### 3. MISSION READOUT:

UE 800A, 16 JANUARY 1966, REVEALS THE FOLLOWING BRIDGES AND BY-PASSES ON ROUTE 1A:

A. THE KIM NAC HIGHWAY BRIDGE OVER STREAM

LOCATED 0.5 NM NORTHEAST OF KIM NAC AT 1813N 10602E IS SERVICE
ABLE. A BY-PASS ROAD SOUTH OF THE BRIDGE IS IN POOR CONDITION.

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AN OCCUPIED FOUR-GUN LIGHT AAA SITE IS LOCATED JUST SOUTHWEST OF THE BRIDGE AND BY-PASS ROAD.

- B. THE DESTROYED SON KINH HIGHWAY BRIDGE LOCATED 0.6 NM
  EAST-SOUTHEAST OF SON KINH AT 1811N 10611E IS BEING BY-PASSED
  BY A SERVICEABLE, TEMPORARY WOODEN DECK BRIDGE JUST SOUTH OF THE
  DESTROYED BRIDGE. A SECOND BRIDGE IS NOTED JUST NORTH OF THE
  DESTROYED BRIDGE AND APPEARS TO HAVE AGGREGATE APPROACHES AND
  A WOODEN, CENTER SPAN. FOUR TRUCKS WITH POSSIBLE AAA GUNS APPEAR
  TO HAVE CROSSED AN UNNAMED STREAM AND ARE OBSERVED HEADING
  NORTHWEST. AUTOMATIC WEAPONS POSITIONS AND PERSONNEL TRENCHES
  ARE LOCATED ALONG THE STREAM.
- C. THE DESTROYED XOM CHEO HIGHWAY BRIDGE OVER THE KHE DONG TRAM (RIVER) LOCATED 1.1 NM NORTHWEST OF XOM CHEO AT 1806N 10616E IS BEING BY-PASSED BY A SERVICEABLE ROAD IN GOOD CONDITION JUST EAST OF THE DESTROYED BRIDGE. A CARGO TRUCK IS OBSERVED JUST SOUTH OF THE BRIDGE HEADING NORTH.
- D. THE SERVICEABLE KY ANH HIGHWAY BRIDGE OVER SONG CAU TRI

  LOCATED 0.7 NM SOUTHWEST OF KY ANH AT 1804N

  10617E IS BEING BY-PASSED BY A SERVICEABLE BRIDGE JUST EAST OF

  THE KY ANH BRIDGE. SEVERAL AUTOMATIC WEAPONS POSITIONS ARE

  OBSERVED IN THE AREA.

	Ε.	THE	DAMAGED	QUYEN	HOANH	HIC	AWH:	Y BF	RIDGE	SOUTI	IWES	3T :	NO	2
OVER	STRE	EAM			LOCA	ľED	0.9	NM	SOUTH	WEST	OF	QU	YEN	I

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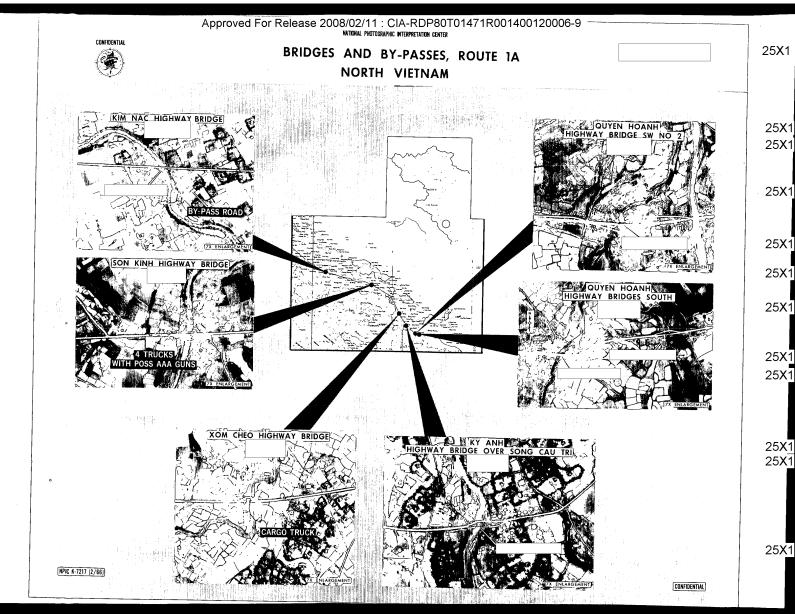
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HOANH AT 1802N 10619E IS BEING BY-PASSED BY A SERVICEABLE FORD SOUTH OF THE BRIDGE.

F. THE QUYEN HOANH HIGHWAY BRIDGE SOUTH NO 2 OVER ST	REAM
LOCATED 0.7 NM SOUTH OF QUYEN HOANH AT 180	)2N
10620E APPEARS TO BE SERVICEABLE. THE SERVICEABLE QUYEN H	HIAOH
HIGHWAY BRIDGE SOUTH NO 1 OVER KHE NUOC ( LO	CATEL
0.7 NM SOUTH OF QUYEN HOANH IS BEING BY-PASSED BY A SERVIC	CEABLE
FORD MORTH OF THE BRIDGE	

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